

'JUSTICE AND EQUALITY.'

## THE OTTAWA FREE TRADER.

Ottawa, November 30, 1850.

What is Ottawa doing?

We clip the following paragraph from the St. Louis Republican. It suggests some thoughts which may be of advantage to the people of Ottawa:

"WHAT BURLINGTON IS DOING.—We learn from the Burlington (Iowa) Telegraph, that sixty thousand dollars have been subscribed in that city for the construction of a plank road between that city and Mount Pleasant. Is it any wonder that these cities increase in population and wealth, when such roads are subsidized by the citizens for 'only one road'? Fifty thousand dollars of this amount was taken by citizens—the remainder by the corporation—and the fifty thousand dollars are more than have ever been subscribed by the people of St. Louis, in any public road—except the Pacific Railroad. The two facts need no commentary."

It is a singular fact, which often manifests itself, that there is a great difference in the same class of people in different localities. They seem to be filled with liberality, enterprise, and enthusiasm, at one place, while, at another, they are cold, sluggish, and penurious. Why this should be so, is a mystery to us.

Take, for instance, the two cities above alluded to. Their inhabitants are, like those of all our western cities, made up from every state in the Union, besides a large proportion representing nearly every other nation on the globe. The amount of capital in St. Louis, is, at the least calculation, equal to \$100 to \$1 in Burlington; yet, to raise \$50,000 to build a plank road, to increase the trade and build up the surrounding country of the city of Burlington, was the work of but a single day, while, in St. Louis, the amount for a similar object, could scarcely have been raised at all.

But we need not go so far from home for an example. The same fact is strikingly illustrated here in our own town, when compared with our sister towns, La Salle and Peru. The population of the three places, as far as activity is concerned, is exactly the same. Their business men, mechanics, and mechanics half from the same countries and many from the same cities and towns in the east, with our; yet, it is a notorious fact, that there is more enterprise in a half dozen men in Peru than in the whole of Ottawa put together. Humiliating as this acknowledgement may be to our intelligent citizens, it is nevertheless a fact that cannot be gainsaid; and the world is looking at our lethargy with astonishment.

The population of Peru is little over half that of Ottawa; and yet, besides successfully competing with her immediate rival, La Salle and all her advantages, she is quietly extending her influence over large sections of country, and drawing its wheat, corn, pork, &c., from us, and arousing an interest in her favor almost in the very suburbs of our own town. To facilitate the settlement, and to secure the trade of a large and fertile tract of country, her enterprise, liberality and untiring energy has been the means of constructing a plank road from there to Grand de Tour, in Ogle county, a distance of some 40 miles; and with the same object in view she is moving with a giant force in the construction of the Peru and Rock Island Railroad, thus establishing for herself throughout our country a name and fame which Ottawa can never attain, unless she succeeds, without delay, from her present state of inactivity. Such a spirit pervading the people, will build up any town—it attracts capitalists, and like a vast whirlpool, it sweeps to one common center, everything which can be brought within its influence.

In Ottawa everything is the reverse. At the present time, persons living eight or ten miles from town, find it almost if not quite impossible to come here to do their ordinary trading, much less to haul to our market their produce. Owing to this very fact, a large portion of the big Vermilion country, Upper Indian Creek, and all of those heavy settlements around Paw Paw, Ross' and Shabene's Groves and the new settlement rapidly being made between here and Troy Grove, are, during a large portion of the year, compelled to go from six to ten miles farther to market. Not because they prefer other markets to ours, or cannot get the articles they want here, but because they find it utterly impossible, during wet and muddy weather, to come to our town. These facts with which every man in Ottawa is as familiar as he is with his own family affairs; and we all feel and deplore this state of things. But woe! there this day a petition carried around town to aid the farmers of one of the above named settlements to open a permanent road by which they could come at all seasons of the year, to our market, we doubt whether enough could be raised to pay a man for carrying it round. Or were there books opened for subscription to a plank road from here to Paw Paw Grove, we doubt whether \$50 worth of stock would be taken; though all are ready to admit that the stock would not only be profitable but that its tendency would be greatly to enhance the price of real estate here, to facilitate the settlement of the lands along us line, and permanently open to this town a channel which would secure to our merchants and mechanics the trade of a number of the most extensive and flourishing settlements in the state, whose produce and trade alone are sufficient to build up a city.

Why, then, are we doing around our firesides, when such weighty interests as these demand our immediate action?

Aurora is not insensible to the importance of the trade of these settlements. And while Peru and La Salle are quietly reaching out their potent arms towards them from the west, Aurora is paving the way for them from the east, while Ottawa lies sleeping, within her eyeshadow limits, pinching her paydays with a miser's fowling, and whining over the dullness of the times.

CAPITAL.—The Hartford Times thus describes a very extraordinary fish which a gentleman was exhibiting at the American Hotel, in that city: "It is part bull-head, part eel, a little of the shark, and a touch of the blue fish! Its head is that of the cat fish, under the chin is a 'goatee,' part of the body is that of an eel, and part bull-head! It is colored of a dirty brown, streaked with blue, and is nearly two feet long. It has but one eye." This nondescript was spoken in the Awatagan river, near Springfield."

The Boston Times copies the above, and says:

"Boston fish isn't the whale party, then we give it up. We have often heard of the 'embodiment' of the whig party, but it appears they have seen it in Hartford. 'Oh, flesh, flesh, how art thou fitted!' The bull head stands for the proverbial obstinacy of the whigs in doing wrong, the eel part for their slippiness, the shark for their love of monopolies, and the blue fish for the blue lights with which they used to make signs to the British in the war of 1812. The cat fish is emblematic of the devilish sly disposition of the party, the 'goatee' represents those 'nice young men' who go about in French boats and British coats prating of the necessity that exists for protecting 'home industry' against the 'pawp' labor of Europe; and the bull-frog is the personification of whig croaking."

The dirty brown, streaked with blue, is the abolitionism that the whigs used to love so well, and which they will love just so well again when they shall have once more resumed their old place as the peoples opposition. The one eye represents the one-sided view the whigs are in the habit of taking of things, and the spear with which the old fish was slain is a democratic victory."

We do hope something will be done this winter in this matter. We must either aid the farmers along the state road to improve it so as to render it passable, or form a company for the con-

sstruction of a plank road. If we wish to derive any benefit from these regions of country, we must go to work at once.

Our great natural advantages, our beautiful location, and delightful scenery, about which we talk so much, and on which we depend to build us up, are all airy bubbles, and will soon vanish from our sight if nothing is done to secure the country trade which surrounds us. Our water-power and our mineral lands will sleep for ages unless something is done to make it an object for capital to come here.

Of course, every man can dispose of his own means as he may think fit. But every man owes more or less to the community in which he lives, and, if an opportunity is offered, where, by the investment of a limited sum, he can confer a great public good with liberal profit to himself, the public are a right to expect him to do so.

THURSDAY.—There was a fair inquiry for poultry in the market on Tuesday and Wednesday, and we think on Thursday morning a good turkey would have commanded a handsome premium, but beyond this we witnessed few special evidences that our people were keeping Thursday as a day of "public thanksgiving." We noticed but three closed, and when, at eleven, we repaired to the "place of public worship," we met less than a hundred persons there, out of a population of over 3000. Those who were there, however, will not soon forget the well conceived and impressive discourse of the Rev. Mr. Heath, on the occasion. It was truly a "word in season" and most fitly spoken.

There is wanting an essential element in the West to make thanksgiving day a joyful season of the old eastern household, and that is the annual recurrence of the day. There are few opportunities here for these pleasant family reunions that constitute at once the main feature and charm of an eastern thanksgiving feast. Where are the fathers, sisters, brothers, cousins, &c., of the descendants of this western world? A year starts to many an eye unused to the melting mood, as the convocation rushes upon the owner that at least on this earth a reunion is impossible. Here the thanksgiving dinner must be shared with comparative strangers. There are no sisters from school—brothers from toll, grandmothers sage, and cousins to the third remove—mad with joy, and making the old family mansion ring with their merry laugh and shout. We are all new beginners here, and it will take many years before the troupe of fifty cousins, brothers, &c., will meet in our old home to renew to us in our "near and yellow leaf," the scenes of three score years ago. But the day will surely come, and with many is already here—when even in Illinois a genuine Puritan thanksgiving can be enjoyed to its full.

### LATER NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamer Ohio arrived at New York from Chicago, on the morning of the 23d inst. She had a large number of passengers and brought \$1,425,000 in gold dust, \$10,000 of which was in the hands of passengers. This makes over \$8,000,000 in gold which has been added to our currency by the two last arrivals, (the Oregon on the 21st and the Ohio 23d inst.) and nearly \$10,000,000 during the month of November. The Ohio brought the California mail.

### CONCERT.

THE ALLEGHENIANS HAVE COME!—This band of vocalists, who are universally acknowledged to be the best of the kind now traveling in the United States, will favor us with one of their delightful concerts, this (Saturday) evening, in the court house. According to the Chicago papers, the people of that city were perfectly enraptured with their performances. Their music is of the highest order—elegant and refined; generally new and arranged by themselves to suit their voices. They are identically the same troupe who visited our town two years ago. By their advertisement in to-day's paper, it will be seen that they intend giving but one concert; all, therefore, who wish to hear them must be on hand to-night.

PHYSIC AND LITERATURE.—The arrival of the heaviest stock of fresh drugs ever received at once in town, at the store of WHITE & HUNTER, and their well merited prosperity in that quarter, while it is a somewhat unfavorable symptom as to the progress of hydro- and homoeopathic principles in this region. Fancy soaps, perfumes, powders, and quite a stock of albums, works of light literature, school books, &c., however, expel from their place the nausea of mere drugs, and enable their customers to minister to many more emulsive wants than those created by their calamities.

LETTER FROM THE BACK WOODS AND THE APPALACHIAN.—By Rev. J. T. Headley, with a portrait of the author—104 pages. Printed by John S. Taylor, New York City. 1850.

The character of Mr. Headley's writings is too favorably known to need any praise here. These letters, written as they were upon the spot and describing scenes while the eye was still resting upon them, give the reader a most vivid conception of the wild and romantic character of the country through which he passed. To any one who is familiar with the beautiful style of Mr. H., the mere fact that a work from his pen is published is a sufficient inducement to seek it.

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THE WORLD AND THE REST OF MAN.—The editor of the State Register is a savagely bold. By a stroke of the pen he has banished the whole Mexican nation from this mundane sphere, and placed them among that dubious people, whose dwelling place is beyond the lone of map makers, and whom General Taylor condescended to notice only "as the rest of mankind." Speaking of the exportation of gold from California, the Register indulges the following rhetorical flourish:

"If such an extraneous exportation was kept up, a hundred millions of gold would be thrown into the market of the world during the year, exclusive of the large amount to be carried into Mexico."

THE BOSTON TIMES COPIES THE ABOVE, AND SAYS: "Boston fish isn't the whale party, then we give it up. We have often heard of the 'embodiment' of the whig party, but it appears they have seen it in Hartford. 'Oh, flesh, flesh, how art thou fitted!' The bull head stands for the proverbial obstinacy of the whigs in doing wrong, the eel part for their slippiness, the shark for their love of monopolies, and the blue fish for the blue lights with which they used to make signs to the British in the war of 1812. The cat fish is emblematic of the devilish sly disposition of the party, the 'goatee' represents those 'nice young men' who go about in French boats and British coats prating of the necessity that exists for protecting 'home industry' against the 'pawp' labor of Europe; and the bull-frog is the personification of whig croaking."

The Dearly Beloved of the O. R. are referred to the Proclamation of the Most Worshipful, which will be found in another column.

THE GERMAN LANGUAGE.—We notice, in various eastern papers, that efforts are being made to introduce the study of the German language into the public schools. We have often wondered that this was not done before. The German language is now so extensively used in every department of trade, as well as in literature and science, that some acquaintance with it is almost indispensable to a well-educated man. Its importance is vastly greater than any of the dead languages, and equally as much so as either the French or Italian, all of which have been taught in the public schools, of some of the eastern states, for many years.

WE HOPE SOMETHING WILL BE DONE THIS WINTER IN THIS MATTER. WE MUST EITHER AID THE FARMERS ALONG THE STATE ROAD TO IMPROVE IT SO AS TO RENDER IT PASSABLE, OR FORM A COMPANY FOR THE CON-

### Illinois Legislature.

We give below a list of the members of the Illinois legislature, just elected. The Illinois, we believe complete.

The senate consists of twenty-five members, of whom twelve were elected this year. The house consists of seventy-five members.

Politically the members elect foot up as follows:

Dems.	Whigs.
Senate, 17	8
House, 36	29
	—
Total,	43

### SENATE.

1. Alexander, Union, Polaski, Johnson, Massie, Pope and Hardin.—A. J. Kunkle, d. n.

2. Gwinnett, Smith, Williamson, Franklin, and White.—Dempsey, Oram, d. o.

3. Jefferson, Wayne, Marion, and Hamilton.—Judah P. Hardy, d. o.

4. Washington, Perry, Randolph, and Jackson.—Hawkins L. Ostrom, d. o.

5. Clark and Monroe.—J. L. D. Morrison, w. o.

6. McLean, Clay, and Clinton.—Joseph Gillespie, w. n.

7. Christian, St. John, Montgomery, Bond, and Fayette.—Henry, Boundary, d. n.

8. Ellington, Jaeger, Clay, Richard Lawrence, Edwards and Walmsley.—Alfred C. Ginn, w. o.

9. Edgar, Clark, and Crawford.—R. E. Wyman, d. n.

10. Vermilion, Champaign, Piatt, McUrtrie, and Morgan.—John C. Chapman, d. n.

11. Tazewell, McLean, Logan, Drury, d. n.

12. Sangamon, Menard, and Mason.—John T. Stewart, w. o.

13. Macoupin, Jersey, Greene, and Calhoun.—Franklin Witt, d. n.

14. Morgan, Scott, and Cass.—Newton Cloud, d. o.

15. Johnson and Williams.—A. G. Caldwell, d.

16. Williamson, Schuyler, Brown, and Highland.—John P. Richardson, d. o.

17. Hancock and Henderson.—Jacob C. Davis, d. n.

18. Fulton and Peoria.—Peter Sweet, d. n.

19. Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, Warren, Knox, and Stark.—John Dury, w. o.

20. La Salle, Bureau, Putnam, Marshall, Wood, and Livingston and Grundy.—Wm. Redick, d. o.

21. Du Page, Kendall, Will, and Iroquois.—J. A. Matson, d. o.

22. Ogle, Lee, De Kalb, and Kane.—William B. Pinto, d. n.

23. Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll, and Whiteside.—Hugh Wallace, d. n.

24. Morgan, McHenry, Boone, and Winnebago.—Thomas B. Thorne, w. n.

25. Cook and Lake.—Norman B. Judd, d. o.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

1. Union, Alexander, and Polaski.—C. G. Simonds, d.

2. Massie, Pope, and Hardin.—Wesley Shinn, d.

3. Gallatin and Saline.—A. G. Caldwell, d.

4. Johnson and Williamson.—O. G. Farrell, d.

5. McLean, and DeWitt.—J. S. Farwell, d.

6. Morgan, Jefferson, Wayne, and Hamlin.—Z. Casey, d. w. L. Gosh, d. and J. N. Hayne, d.

7. McLean, Jefferson, Wayne, and Hamlin.—Z. Casey, d. w. L. Gosh, d. and J. N. Hayne, d.

8. Walmsley and Edwards.—Wm. Pickering, d.

9. Lawrence and Richardson.—Amos Shaw, d.

10. Crawford and Justus.—James Alton, d.

11. McLean and Dickey.—J. D. Dickey, d.

12. Clark.—T. C. Moore, d.

13. Canterbury, Ellington and Clay.—Wm. H. Blackley, d.

14. Fayette.—Akin Evans, d.

15. Montgomery, Bond and Clinton.—Wm. Brewster, w. and S. Breese, d.

16. Washington and Peoria.—Rich G. Murphy, d.

17. Randolph.—E. Deering, d.

18. Whiteside.—John H. Johnson, d.

19. Steuben.—Thomas Quack, d.

20. St. Clair.—W. H. Snyder, d. and H. Patterson, d.

21. Madison.—Andrew Miller, w. and Nelson G. Edwards, w.

22. Sangamon.—N. W. Edwards, w. and President